

The Determinants of Community Safety within a System of Community Accounts

"Safety promotion, violence prevention: When networks unite!"
JASP, Montreal
Fall 2006

Dr. Doug May Memorial University



Voyage

- Acknowledgements
- Vision, Values, and Strategies
- The Community Paradigm
- The System of Community Accounts
- Community Safety Web-Portal

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Cette présentation a été effectuée le 26 octobre 2006, au cours du Symposium "Promouvoir la sécurité, prévenir la violence : quand les réseaux font équipe" dans le cadre des Journées annuelles de santé publique (JASP) 2006. L'ensemble des présentations est disponible sur le site Web des JASP, à l'adresse <http://www.inspq.qc.ca/jasp>.

“Knowing what to measure and how to measure it, makes a complicated world less so.”

Levitt, Stephen D. and Stephen J. Dubner,
Freakonomics, HarperCollins, New York, 2005.

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Vision, Values and Strategies

- **Our Vision:** “Healthy, educated, distinctive, self-reliant and prosperous people living in vibrant, supportive and safe communities within sustainable regions.”
- **Our Values:** “Social Justice, equity, collaboration, fairness and responsibility”
- **Our Strategies:**
 - “People actively participating in their collective **well-being**”
 - “Strategic investments in individuals, families and communities”
 - “Integrated and evidence-based policy development and monitoring as the foundation of social development programs and services”

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The Community Paradigm

- Our lives are shaped by a set of **inter-related** factors/domains so that issues cannot be viewed in isolation from one another.
- Social and economic problems must be dealt with collectively and comprehensively.
- No hierarchy of cause and effect.
- The identification of problems, solutions to those problems and the delivery of services and programs may be best dealt with at the community level.
- Partnerships and true collaboration is a *sine qua non*

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The Accounting System Paradigm

- There is a requirement for measurement.
- Qualitative and quantitative can exist together as can subjective and objective.
- But as in any accounting system what is recorded in one domain or ledger has to be consistent with the data in another domain since it is all part of the same community.
- Discover "hidden" linkages
- Document progress.

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People, Community and Well-Being

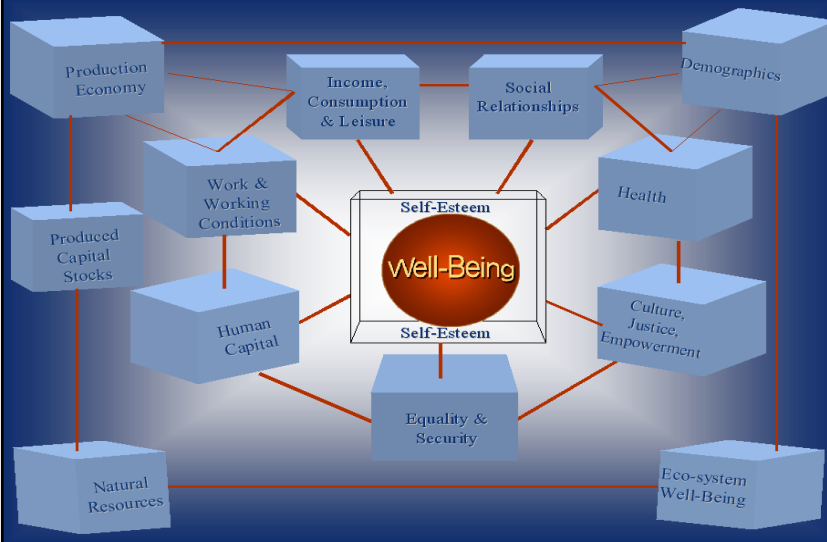


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Domains of Well-Being: The Web of Life



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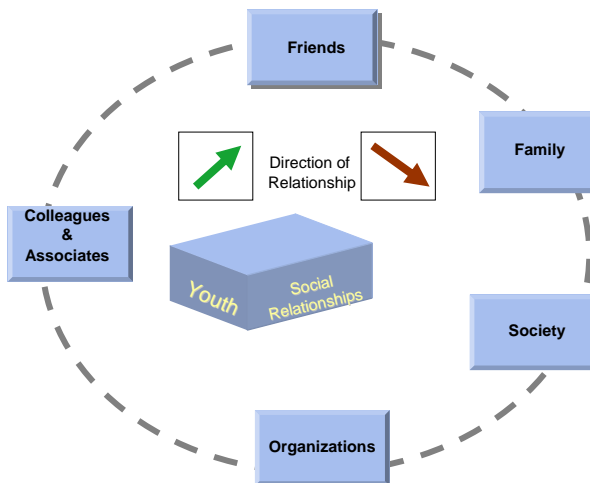
Dimensions of the Domains



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The Circle of Social Capital



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The Determinants of Determinants

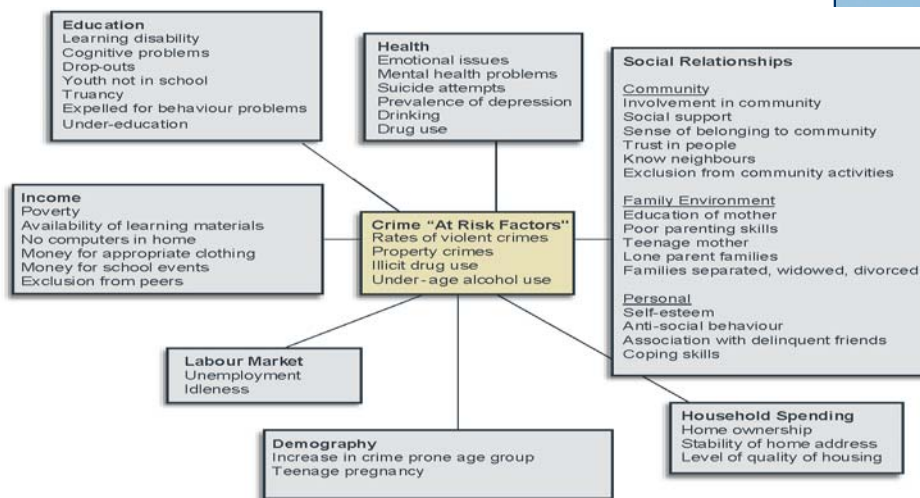
- Relationships
- Causality
- Evidenced-based approach to policy development
- Examples
 - Population health model
 - Quality of Life Model
 - Safe Communities Model
 - Sustainable development model

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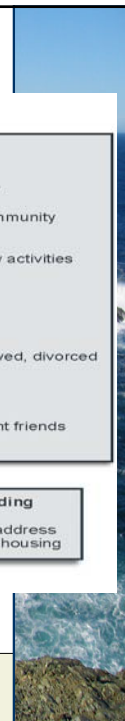


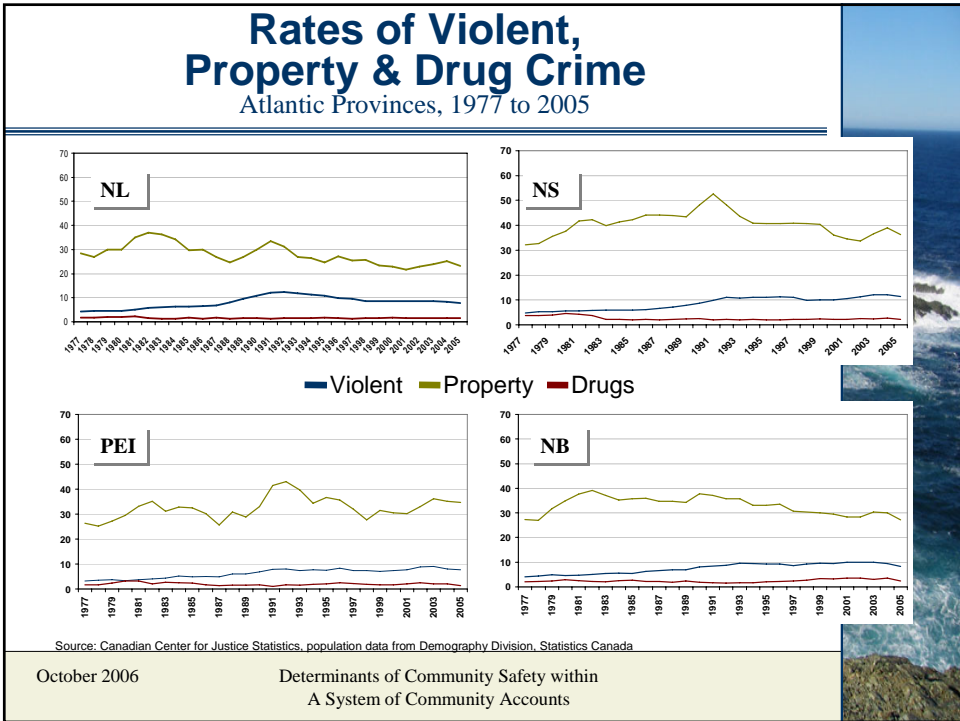
The Determinants of Crime



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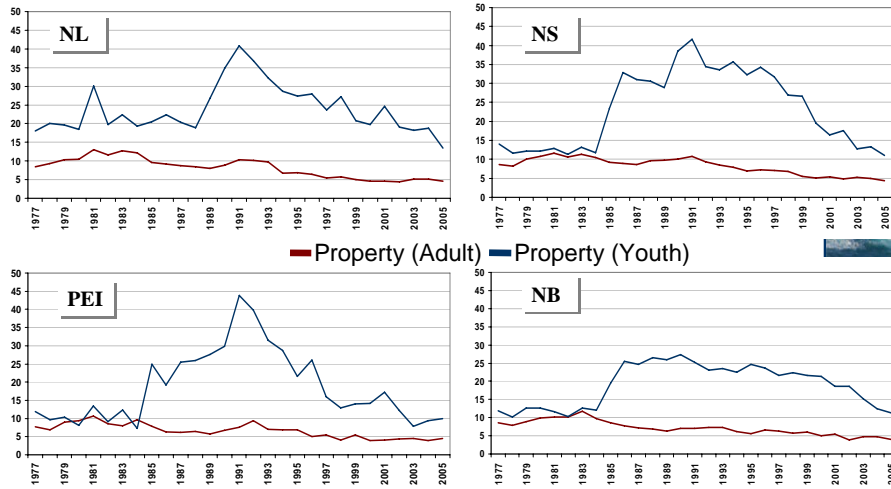
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Rate of Adults & Youths Charged with Property Crime

Atlantic Provinces, 1977 to 2005 (rate per 1000)



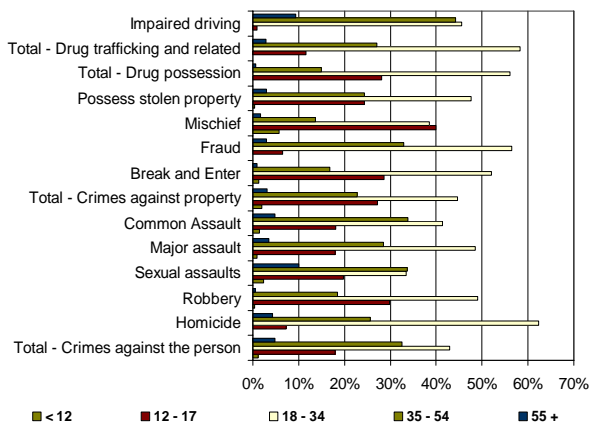
Source: Canadian Center for Justice Statistics, population data from Demography Division, Statistics Canada

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Crime By Age Group

Selected Police Forces, 2004



Majority of offences committed by 18 – 34 year olds
Those age 12 – 34 responsible for over 65% of reported incidents of crime

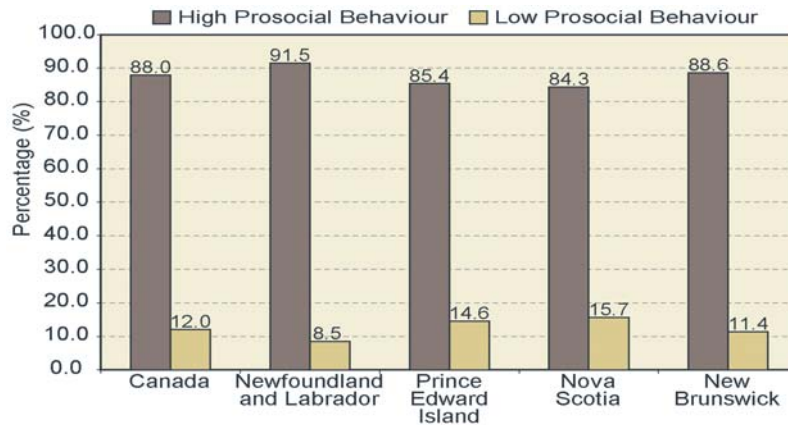
Note: The Canadian UCR does not record ages of persons apprehended in incidents that are cleared. However, this information is provided in a new version of the UCR – the UCR(2), which is currently being operated in parallel with the existing UCR. The data reported here is from those police forces that report on the UCR(2).

Source: Canadian Center for Justice Statistics, population data from Demography Division, Statistics Canada

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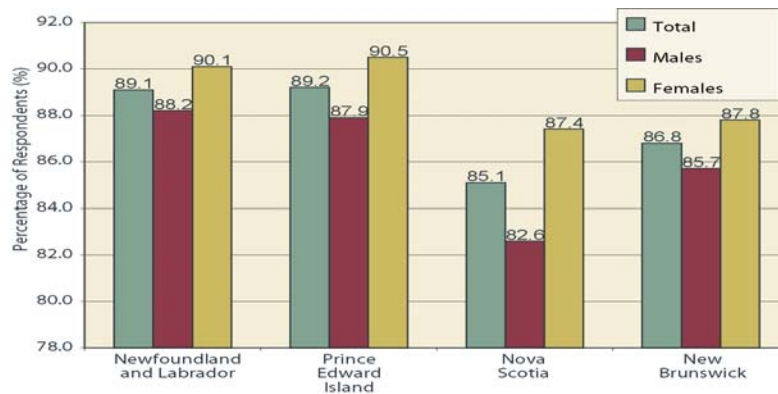
Pro-social Behaviour: Children Aged 10-15



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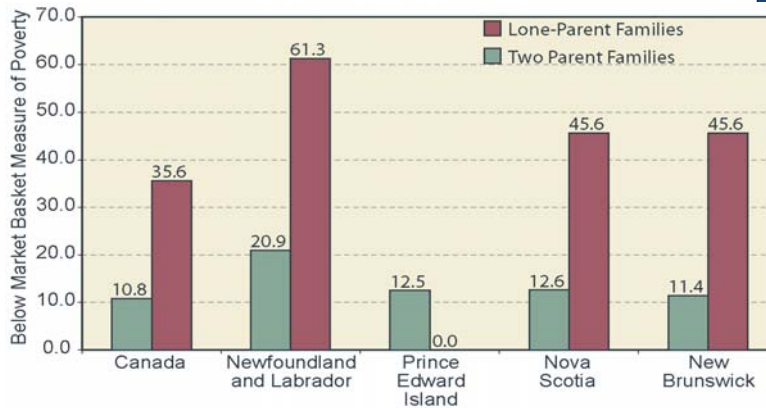
Percentage Reporting High Levels of Social Support



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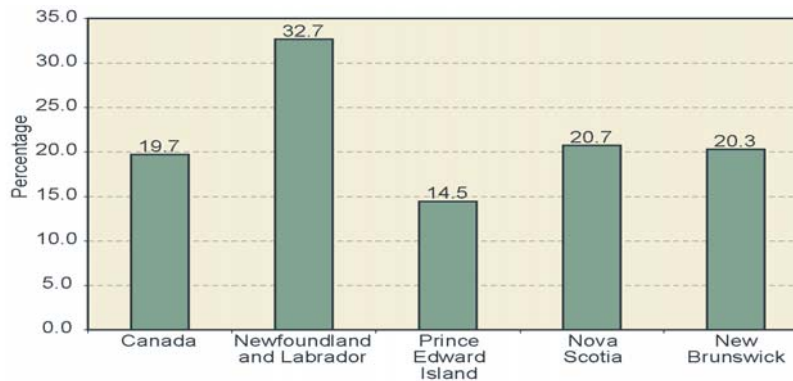
Incidence of Low Income Families



Atlantic Canada's Community Accounts

A product of
the System of
Community Accounts

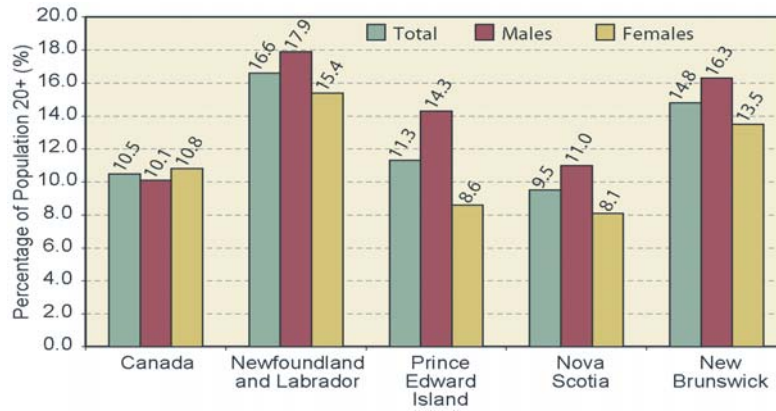
Percentage of Population Aged 15-24 Not Working or Attending School



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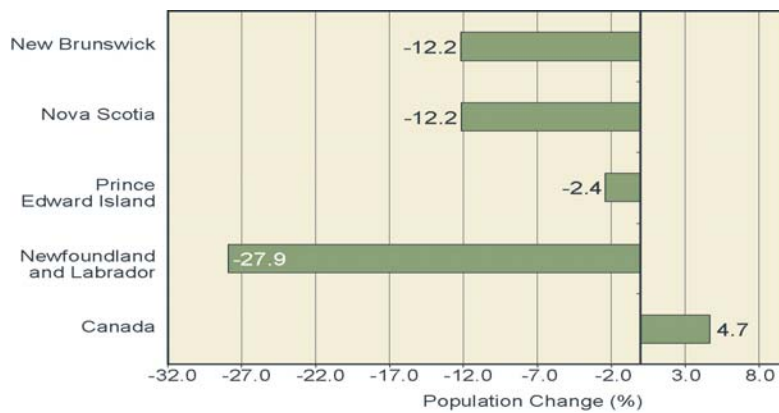
Percentage of Population 20+ with less than Grade 9



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Population Change 15-24 Year-olds 1991-2001



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Doug May:
Robert put a web portal in here for the Community Safety Account

Community Safety Account



Neighbourhood Accounts

Doug May:
Robert put a web portal in here for the Neighbourhood Accounts



Some (Unexpected) Outcomes To Date

- Diverse groups associated with the domains have come together and found common interests and concerns.
 - Knowledge development in how parts of socio-economic puzzle inter-relate
 - Concern shifts to community well-being from organization
 - Catalyst for action
 - Expanded and strengthened relationships
 - Coordinated efforts
 - Resources are shared
- Learning groups have been formed to use the Accounts for evidence-based action
- Data and information sharing: contribution to knowledge pot

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A Tale of Two Communities

- Two rural communities 10 km from each other and both heavily dependent on fishing industry
- One seems to be much more capable of being sustainable and local economic development occurring.
- This community has much higher levels of social capital.
- In the other community looking for other social problems, it was discovered that drugs and youth were a “hidden” issue.
- Narrow issues can be symptomatic of much larger problems.

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